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X-MEN



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ARE BACK!**
'NUFF SAID!

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Stan Lee
Presents **THE UNCANNY X-MEN!**

MERRY CHRISTMAS, X-MEN...

CHRIS CLAREMONT * Writer	DAVE COCKRUM Artist
SAM GRAINGER, inker	
JOE ROSEN, JANICE COHEN, letterer	colorist
MARY WOLFMAN, editor	

CHRISTMAS IN THE BIG APPLE: A QUIET TIME, FOR ONCE--A TIME OF JOY AND BEAUTY, A TIME WHEN PEOPLE CAN RELAX, AND FORGET ABOUT DEFAULT AND LAY-OFFS AND GARBAGE AND POLITICIANS WHO COULDN'T CARE LESS...

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IN SHORT, IT'S A TIME FOR LOVE...

...AND THE X-MEN ARE RIGHT IN THE THICK OF IT.

SCOTT, STORM, ALL OF YOU-- CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

A WHITE CHRISTMAS!

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN YEARS, NEW YORK'S GOT ITSELF A REAL HONEST-TO-GOODNESS WHITE CHRISTMAS!

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ISN'T THE SNOW *BEAUTIFUL*, ORORO?

IN ITS WAY, JEAN...

...BUT I CAN'T HELP REMEMBERING THAT ON THE SLOPES OF KILIMANJARO THE SNOW IS... *WHITE*.



OH, BROTHER-- IT'S CHRISTMAS--!!

YOU KNOW, ORORO, THERE ARE *TIMES* WHEN I THINK YOU'RE AS BAD AS SCOTT...

...AND YOU SHOULD SEE WHAT I HAVE TO GO THRU TO GET HIM TO LET HIS HAIR DOWN ONCE IN AWHILE.



VERY FUNNY, LITTLE LADY. I THOUGHT ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS *SMILE*.

ANYWAY, KURT AND PETER SEEM TO BE *ENJOYING THEMSELVES*.

MR. SUMMERS, YOUR GIFT FOR *UNDER-STATEMENT* BOGGLES THE MIND.



UH, AMANDA-- I THINK WE'RE BEING FOLLOWED.

BETSY DEAR, DO YOU HEAR ME SCREAMING FOR A COP?

AUF WIEDERSEHEN MEINE FREUNDE... IF YOU DON'T HEAR FROM US AGAIN...

...DON'T WORRY. MERRY CHRISTMAS, ALL.



AN' ON *THAT* NOTE, ME BOYOS, MOIRAN' I'LL BE *MOVIN'* ON OURSELVES...

...WE'RE T'BE SHOWIN' EACH OTHER THE *SYGHS* O' NEW YORK.



WHAT ABOUT YOU WOLVERINE?

WHAT ABOUT ME, MISS GREY--? I GOT NO USE FOR CHRISTMAS.

OH, WELL... HAVE A *NICE TIME*, ANYWAY.



STRANGE MAN WOLVERINE... WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER ALMOST A YEAR... AND I'M *STILL* NOT SURE HE'LL WORK OUT.

BUT THEN... I WAS SURE ABOUT ALEX AND LORNA...

...AND THEY TRIED TO *KILL US*.

*LAST ISH-- MARY.



STOP IT!

IT'S CHRISTMAS, SCOTT-- AND YOU'VE BEEN *TEARING* YOURSELF APART OVER ALEX FOR *WEEKS*...

...CAN'T YOU JUST *THIS ONCE* GIVE IT A REST...

...AND *KISS ME*.



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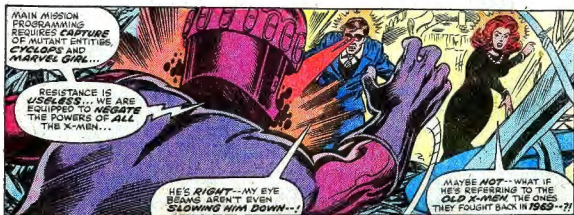
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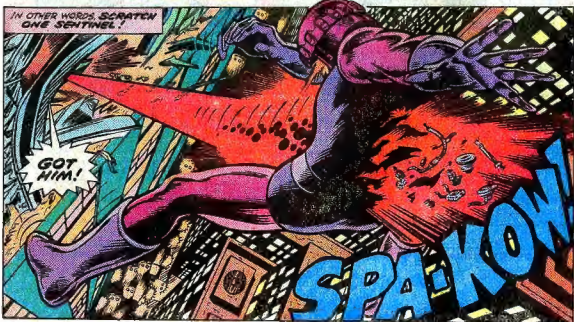


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SPA-KOW!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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BACKTRACK A MINUTE NOW, AND
WITNESS THE ARRIVAL OF SOME RATHER
UNIQUE WRECKAGE RIGHT ON RADIO CITY'S
DOOR-STEP



THAT'S NO BUILDIN' FRIEND--
SENTINELS PRESERVE
US ALL--



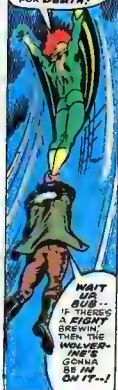
NO TIME FOR SUBTLETY.
BANSHEE-ME-BOYO--



MOIRA--! YE AN'
STORM FIND NIGHT-
CRAWLER AN' COLOSSUS,
WARN 'EM--!



TO A MUTANT
ORORO-- SENTINEL'S
ANOTHER NAME
FOR DEATH!



DIDJA HEAR--?
THAT GREEN GUY
SAID THEY WUZ
MUTIES--!



MORE THAN
YOU CAN EVER
KNOW
HUMAN!





BUT IF BANSHEE THINKS STORM WILL REMAIN AWAY FROM THE HEART OF THIS BATTLE.

HE IS MISTAKEN.

WAIT!-- HANGING FROM THAT RADIO MAST IT'S CYCLOPS! AND HE'S ABOUT TO FALL!



DON'T BE AFRAID, MY FRIEND-- YOU ARE SAFE NOW.

STORM! THANK GOD THE SENTINELS DIDN'T GET YOU ALL.



ALL? I DO NOT UNDERSTAND.

A BUNCH OF THEM NAILED BANSHEE AND WOLVERINE.

JUST PLUCKED THEM OUT OF THE SKY AND THERE WASN'T A THING I COULD DO TO STOP IT.



AH SCOTT... THESE SENTINELS ARE THEY LARGE METALLIC ROBOTS...?

HUNT? OF COURSE THEY ARE... WHY?

ON HO



SENTINEL A3 REPORTED YOUR LIFE FUNCTIONS TERMINATED. CYCLOPS IT SEEMS A3 WAS IN ERROR.

SAID ERROR WILL BE CORRECTED-- NOW!

ZOWIE!

NO!!



OUR PROGRAMMING IS SPECIFIC AND BINDING, MUTANT.

ALL WHO RESIST US MUST BE DESTROYED.

WELL I AM STORM MONSTER.

AND I RESIST YOU--!



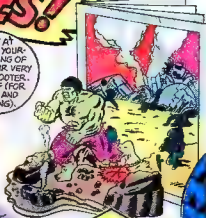
AND I WILL NOT BE DESTROYED!!

JUST FOR YOU... OUR MAGNIFICENT MARVEL GOODIES!

GOT ANY SUPER-VILLAINS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD? WELL, TAKE CARE OF 'EM WITH A SPIDER-MAN WEB-SHOOTER!



IT'S HERE AT LAST--"ZAP YOURSELF" A STRING OF FUN WITH YOUR VERY OWN WEB-SHOOTER. \$2.19 + 39¢ (FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING).



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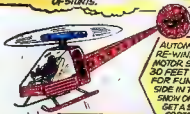


\$1.89 + 39¢ (FOR POSTAGE & HANDLING).

YEA, THINK EVIL. NOW, HE'S GOOD ON A MOTORCYCLE! WELL, WAIT'LL YOU SEE OL' SPIDEY DO HIS THING. GYRO POWERED HE SOMERSAULTS, LEAPS INTO THE AIR AND DOES HUNDREDS OF STUNTS.

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AND TO LET EVERYONE KNOW YOU'RE COMIN'--GET YOUR VERY OWN SPIDER-MAN BIKE HORN! \$2.69 + 69¢ (FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING).



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LIZARD |

NAME _____ AGE _____

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N.J. RESIDENTS ADD STATE SALES TAX. CANADIAN RESIDENTS ADD 50¢.

EACH ONE IS 8" HIGH, MADE OF BENDABLE, POSABLE PLASTIC, WITH COSTUMES MADE OF REAL CLOTH.



SENSE THIS UNIT IS
PROGRAMMED TO DEAL
WITH ALL **MUTANT**
POWERS THE SENT

WARNING
WARNING
WHICH IS ONLY
INCREASING
THREAT ONCE
THREATENING
SYSTEMS
OVERLOAD...

WE ARE
ON A
MACHINE
SENTINEL AND
NOW I CAN A
REAL MACHINE
STAND AGAINST
THE POWER OF
STORM--?

THE
POWER
OF A
RAMPAGING
HURRICANE!!

CHRIS LOOK
UP IN THE SKY
DO YOU SEE
IT?

YEAH I SEE IT
BONNIE BUT I
DON'T BELIEVE
IT!

A **HURRICANE!** A **FREAK** IN
HURRICANE ... CAT #3 SEVENTY
STORIES ABOVE **ROCKEFELLER**
CENTER!

AND IN THE EYE OF THAT
HURRICANE ONE SLIGHT WIND-
CORRECTED **WOMAN** WHO HOLDS
THE **VERDICT** IN A MANTLE
OF **CLAY**

OH MY
GOD

STOP! FOR
DAYS MAKE
STOP! BEFORE
YOU DESTROY
THE **ENTIRE**
CITY!

IT'S DONE.

THERE WAS NO NEED FOR
WORRY SCOTT I HAVE
TOTAL CONTROL OVER MY
ARTIFICES. **NOTHING** WAS
WARMED SAVE THE **SENTINEL**

SO I
SEE

BUT IF **PROFESSOR X** WERE
HERE I'M SURE HE'D

GOOD LORD THE
PROFESSOR!

HE DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT
THESE NEW **SENTINELS**...HE'S
GOT TO BE **WARNED!**

NICE THOUGHT, SCOTT-- BUT
YOU'RE A BIT TOO LATE

AND OUR SCENE SHIFTS DOWN-TIME HALF-A-
DAY AND SOUTH A THOUSAND MILES TO
A PRIVATE YACHT TROTLING THE BAHAMA
OUT ISLANDS...

I DON'T KNOW,
CHARLES-- I DIDN'T KNOW
YOU WENT TO FIGURE
THIS AS SOME SORT OF
PRACTICAL JOKE.

IT'S HERE THAT CHARLES
KAVAR HAS COME FOR HIS
VACATION HERE THAT HE'S
COME TO ASK AN OLD FRIEND
FOR HELP

ENTER PETER CORBEN! PAL, DEL
TWICE ACADEMY AWARD-WINNER AND
DIRECTOR OF THE LATE PROJECT STARCORE

I MEAN THE BINARY
SYSTEM YOU
DESCRIBED ISN'T
MINDA OR
ALSOIN PHASE
OR DUNSHINE...

* AS READERS OF THE HULK WILL NO DOUBT
REMEMBER MARY.

FACE IT CHARLES STARCORE'S
CHARTED OVER HALF THE
ATLANTIC AND YOUR
BINARY ISN'T ANYWHERE
TO BE FOUND

ARE YOU SURE
PETER'S YOU MIGHT
HAVE MISSED
SOMETHING

YOU KNOW ME BETTER
THAN THAT I'VE CHECKED
THE PROGRAM A DOZEN
TIMES.

BLAZES MAN
I EVEN RAN A
QUERY THRU
THE FANTASTIC
FOUR AND
AVENGERS CHARTS THE
RESULT WAS
THE SAME
NOTHING.

WAS OK, LOOK YOU'VE BEEN
UNDER A MELLING STEAM
LATELY MORE THAN ANY MAN
CAN RIGHTLY STAND...

IT COULD BE THAT THE
BINARY OF YOURS ISN'T
REAL AT A

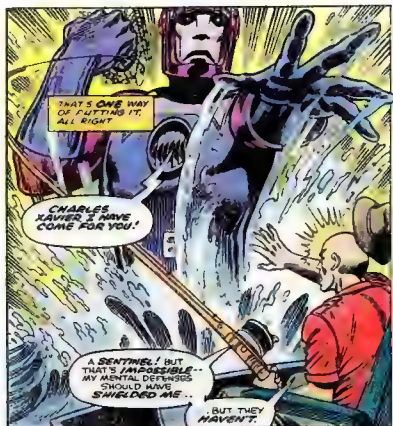
IT COULD BE
ALL IN YOUR
MIND.

ARE YOU SAYING I'M...
INSANE...?

JUST
TIRED.
IS ALL.

BUT I THINK
YOU SHOULD
SEEK PROFESSIONAL
HELP

WHAT THE--?
A BIT,
MAN!



THAT'S ONE WAY OF PUTTING IT, ALL RIGHT

CHARLES XAVIER I HAVE COME FOR YOU!

A SENTINEL! BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE-- MY MENTAL DEFENSES SHOULD HAVE SHIELDED ME...

...BUT THEY HAVEN'T.



VERY WELL, SENTINEL-- YOU HAVE FOUND ME.

BUT YOU'LL FIND THAT CAPTURING ME IS ANOTHER MATTER ALTOGETHER!



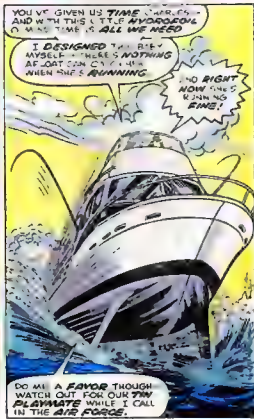
DANGER... DANGER... MUTANT MINDBLAST PENETRATING SHIELDS. THIS UNIT UNABLE TO COMPENSATE IN TIME.

...THIS UNIT IS FALLING...



CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY, SENTINEL-- THAT MINDBLAST SHOULD HAVE DESTROYED YOU. IT SEEMS THAT MY DREAM MUST HAVE SAVED MY POWERS FOR MORE THAN I'D THOUGHT.

I'VE DONE MY BEST, PETER-- THE REST IS UP TO YOU!



YOU'VE GIVEN US TIME, CHARLES-- AND WITH THIS LITTLE HYDROFOIL, A MASS TIME IS ALL WE NEED.

I DESIGNED THIS RIFLE MYSELF-- THERE'S NOTHING AT LEAST CAN DO WHEN SHE'S RUNNING.

NO RIGHT NOW SHE'S RUNNING FINE!

DO ME A FAVOR THOUGH-- WATCH OUT FOR OUR TV PLAYMATE WHILE I CALL IN THE AIR FORCE.

IMAGES... WORDS NEVER
TRUTH!... COLORS NEVER
SALE... WALKING BEYOND
IMAGINING CRAWLING
TO... THIS ARE DYING
SO MANY IMAGES

MAYDAY! MAYDAY!
ANY STATION--

WHAT--
CHARLES!!

LORD THAT SCREAM!
THE POOR SOO'S
GONE TOTALLY
ROUND THE
BEND

TO REBEL WOULD
HAVE DONE
SOMETHING...

BUT HE NEVER
GOT THE
CHANCE.

YOU CANNOT
ESCAPE US,
MUTANT!

AND THEN
TURN ALL, A
SERVABLE
NEED

AND A
FACE

NNNNNN

SPRA-KAMM!

IMPACT THRU ME
DEEP UNDER
HAVEN'T MUCH AIR
IN MY LUNGS

CAN'T TELL
HOW FAR TO THE
SURFACE INSIDE
LUNGS STARTING
TO BURN

MADE IT!

BUT WHAT
ABOUT
XAVIER?!

CHARLES!
CHARLES!

SENTINEL A1 TO MAIN
MISSION RETURNING
TO BASE
VIA
ULTRA
LINEAR
LEAP

SENSORS
INDICATE
SOLAR
RADIATION
NEARING
CRITICAL
LEVELS

LOOKS BAD
CHILD... YOU'RE
TWO HUNDRED
MILES FROM
LAND

AND IF NO
ONE HEARD YOUR
MAYDAY IT'S GOING
TO BE ONE LONG
SWIM

THIS SAYS IT ALL!!

ON SALE JANUARY...

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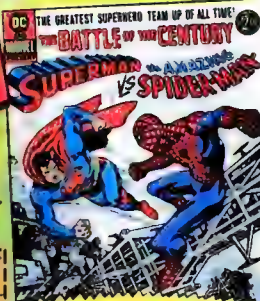
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MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

ON SALE WEEK OF JANUARY 18

POWER MAN #30 Piranha Jones and Cockroach Hamilton join forces, causing Luke Cage to scream "Look What They've Done To Our Lives, Ma!" Power Man must halt this diabolical duo who seek to unleash poison nerve gas clouds over Manhattan in a Don McGregor/Rich Buckler extravaganza



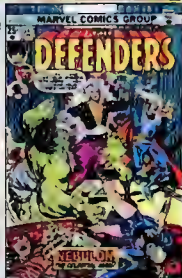
X-MEN #98 Merry Christmas! X-men The Sentinels Have Returned! It begins at Rockefeller Center, it ends Lord knows where! But we think the title says it all! Claremont's Cockroach and Grainger's holiday gift to all X-fans, wherever they may be!

HULK #196 The Collector offers our green giant the chance to become Bruce Banner forever in "Time Lost, Time Shined!" Len Wein, Sal Buscema and Joe Station predict this issue will be a real Collector's Item! (Knock it off, Irv, we wuz only joking!)

BLACK GOLIATH #2 The Atom Smasher smashes on in the tale titled "White Fire, Atomic Death!" Chris Claremont and George Tuska introduce an entirely new female star in this fresh foot lit and second startling issue! Don't miss it!

AVENGERS #146 The awesome secret of the sinister assassin—revealed! Tony Isabelle, Don Heck and John Taraglione earnies do Thor, Iron Man, Captain America, and the rest of the assembled Avengers! that "The Assassin Never Fails!"

CHAMPIONS #5 "The Economy Is So Bad That..." Tony Isabelle and Don Heck have teamed up to provide a bit of recession relief with a rollicking new villain! Remember his name—Rampage! The Champions will never forget it!



DEFENDERS #34 The cataclysmic conclusion of the saga of Nighthawk's brain as "There Enters" The Red Guardian Steve Baby Gerber Our Pa Sal Buscema and Jim "Madman" Mooney host the most pleasing post-holiday party

CONAN #61 Our Savage Barbarian Is On The Track of the She Pirate in this latest Roy Thomas/John Buscema bonanza! And don't miss the final showdown with the Riders of the River Dragons!



Mutant Mail-Box

ADDRESS YOUR LETTERS TO
THE MUTANT MAIL-BOX
C/O JIMMY K. COOK
275 MADISON AVE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

Dear People,

Right from the start I was fascinated by nearly all the new X-MEN, and they're getting individually more intriguing all the time. Now the only uninteresting one left is Colossus. The glimpses of Storm's past on page 30 leave me dying to learn more. And the Wolverine's uncontrolled murder of Kierrok brings him from being one of the less interesting new X-Men up to a level with Storm and the Banshee. I'm glad you finally gave the Banshee a civilian name, but you'd better hurry up and give a name to the Wolverine. You shouldn't wait too long to do that, I still find it impossible to think of Hawkeye as Clint Barton. You're obviously having lots of fun with the international dialects, but why doesn't the Wolverine talk like a Canajan, eh?

As for old villains, I'm not sure if a fourth Sentinel's story (of course I recognized that leg on panel 6 page 14 instantly—after all, X-MEN #14 helped introduce me to Marvel) isn't too much of a good thing. A regular returning villain needs loads of personality, like Dr. Doom or Magneto, and being androids, the Sentinels don't have much in the way of personality. Every other aspect of the mag—especially the plot—has to be something truly exceptional in order to overcome the You-See-One-Sentinel-You've-Seen-Them-All Syndrome. And in this case you've also got the past to overcome: any story that isn't at least twice as good as 1969's Thomas/Adams Sentinel's classic will come across as "just another Sentinel's story."

And as for new villains: I hope the prof is wrong and we have seen the last of Kierrok and the N'gerai. I personally dislike the Monstrous Elder God type of world-conquering villain. The mythic concept behind the evil Elder God bit is always excruciatingly simple-minded, and the monsters themselves are inevitably the dullest of villains. So the N'gerai are ugly and evil and they want to take over: big deal! Where's the personality in that? And in any case, if you must use Monstrous Elder God villains, use them in one of your monster/fantasy oriented mags. THE X-MEN is a superhero/science fiction type of mag, where hideous monsters who can't be killed but disappear in a puff of smoke don't belong. The magic/cosmic angle should be used in THE X-MEN only in very exceptional cases, and then it should be a mind-boggling cosmic trip, not a battle against a race of ugly monstas.

Finally, I'll only make one comment on Moira MacTaggart: it looks like you're really up to something weird. Don't blow it! Make it as freaky as possible.

Jana C. Hollingworth
118 Mathes
Bellingham, Washington

Thanks for the kudos, Jans; we're glad to hear that our band of merry mutants is beginning to grow on Marvelwood Assembled—though we must take exception to your comment about Colossus being uninteresting. Colossus? A Russian orphan living in the big city for the first time, living in the US of A under something less than legal pretenses, a mutant who—last but not least—can turn his body into living metal: *uninteresting!*? We beg to differ. We also invite you to stick around for a few issues—there's a lot more to Colossus (indeed, to *all* the X-Men) than meets the eye, and you're going to be finding out just what starting this issue. I mean, who ever said the Wolverine wore claws?

As for our new Sentinel trilogy, we think you'll find it well worth waiting for, with more surprises, thrills, chills, traumas and dynamite sub-plots than seems decent in a 17-page mag. And don't forget the upcoming *Hundredth-Issue!* From the way Cheerful Chris and Delightful Dave (*Delightful!—??? Sheesh!*) have been banging their heads together, it promises to be a doozy.

Way to go, Wein, Cockrum and Claremont!

In the best of the tradition you established with GIANT-SIZED X-MEN #1, you've come up with another superb adventure of the all-new X-MEN. I have to admit that as long as I live, I'll wish they were the old X-Men, and I get a lump in my throat when I think of the way my old favorites have been parceled out, but better the all-new X-Men than no X-Men, and the all-new X-Men are currently better than any other super-team on the market.

Jo Duffy
311 Davis Hall
Wellesley College
Wellesley, MA 02181

Yours was a long, well-thought out letter, Jo; our only regret is that space (or rather, the lack of same). Suffice to say, thank you for the compliments from Chris, Dave and the whole mixed-up mutant gang—though we must tell you that a certain Kurt Wagner, residing in Worcester, takes exception to being called...*'cute'*. Nightcrawler may be many things...but *cute*?!!

special note: to all of you who wrote in requesting prizes for spotting Nightcrawler with too many fingers on panel 6/page 18: it won't work, kiddings! Because our hero was *slamming* Kierrok with a double-fisted, two-handed punch; you all saw two hands clenched together, not one hand with too many fingers. Sorry folks; better luck next time.

NEXT ISSUE: That's all for now, troops; so, in the words of the immortal armadillo, see ya in sixty—with one of the most exciting, spine-tingling X-Men issues ever. Part 2 of the Sentinel trilogy:—better as: *DEATH-STAR, RISING!*

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

Act of March 15, 1976, section 405.

1987-88, UNITED STATES CODE

1. Title of Publication: THE X-MEN

2. Issue of this Publication: 100

3. Date of Filing: September 10, 1987

4. Issue of this Publication: 100

5. Issue of this Publication: 100

6. Issue of this Publication: 100

7. Issue of this Publication: 100

8. Issue of this Publication: 100

9. Issue of this Publication: 100

10. Issue of this Publication: 100

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EXCEPT
THAT THIS
ISN'T
NEW YORK

WILL YE BE
LOOKIN' AT
THAT -
THE HEAD
MONCHO.
DR. STEVEN
LANG
HIMSELF.

COME I PAY
US ALL A VISIT
WERE AWORDED
SIR

I'M GLAD TO FIND
YOU IN SUCH HIGH SPIRITS,
BANSHEE - YOUR FRIENDS
SHOULD LEARN FROM
YOUR EXAMPLE

DR. LANG -- EXCUSE ME SIR
BUT THE SOLAR RADIATION
STORMS SHOW NO SIGNS
OF ABATING

... WE'LL HAVE TO
SHUT DOWN
SENTINEL
OPERATIONS
FOR THE TIME
BEING

UNDERSTOOD,
TECHNICIAN
WE'LL MAKE DO
WITH THE MUTANTS
WE'VE GOT

I DUNNO SIR
S' THE WOLVER.
HE A MUTANT?
HIS REAGONS
ARE NOTHING
LIKE THE OTHERS

THE
SENTINELS
SAY HE IS

BUT
AUNTAN
OR NO
WHATEVER
THE
WOLVERINE
IS, HE
ISN'T
HUMAN

KEEP IT UP,
BUB -- AN ILL

DO
NOTHING
MUTANT THOSE
CHROMALLOY
SHACKLES ARE
UNBREAKABLE

WHERE'S
YOUR
SMASHING
- AND I
YOU
DON'T
LOOK
DRESSED
WITHOUT

I'M NO NOB!
A SS GREY
JUST A MAN
DOING HIS DUTY

FOLLOWING
ORDERS HUN?
IF YOU LIKE
YOU -- MUTANT.
KIND ARE THE
ENEMY I'M TO
FIND A WAY TO
DESTROY
YOU

WHY START
WITH THE
X-MEN?

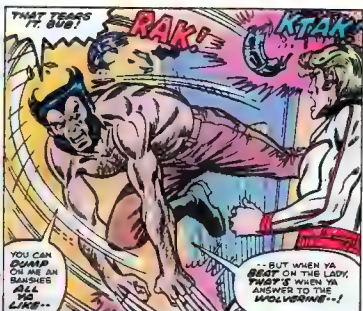
BECAUSE THE X-MEN HAVE
BEEN THE MOST EFFECTIVE
MUTANT OPPOSITION TO THE
SENTINELS -- BECAUSE YOU
CYCLOPS AND ADVISE THE
HEART AND SOUL OF THE X-MEN

CUT OUT
THE HEART
AND THE
BODY DIES
DESTROY THE
X-MEN AND
THE
SENTINELS
ARE UN-
BEATABLE.

YOU SAD PATHETIC
SCREWED-UP LITTLE
MAN -- DO YOU THINK
THE X-MEN ARE THAT
EASILY BEATEN--?



YES!!



YOU CAN DUMP ON ME AN BASHES ALL NO LIES--

...BUT WHEN YA BEST ON THE LADY, THAT'S WHEN YA ANSWER TO THE WOLVERINE--!



AARRRGH!

SENTINEL 7-20 A MUTANT IS LOOSE - SECURE HIM!

ALIVE IF YOU CAN, DEAD IF YOU MUST!



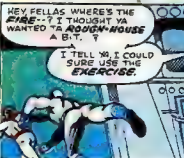
UH-HUH-- SO THAT'S THE NAME OF THE GAME, IS IT?

FINE WITH ME, BUT ONLY THIS TIME I GOT MY FEET ON THE GROUND...



.. AN SENTINEL-BABY THAT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE--!

SPRANN!



HEY FELLAS WHERE'S THE FIRE--? I THOUGHT YA WANTED TA ROUGH-HOUSE A BIT. ?

I TELL YA, I COULD SURE USE THE EXERCISE.



NO TAKERS, HUH? TOO BAD

AN' I THOUGHT YOU CLOWNS HAD GUTS.

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☐ Additional sets — \$2.50 each.
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 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____

Eighteen fantastic stick-ons! All your favorite Marvel Super-heroes! Big ones for wall and doors — mediums for bookcovers, lockers, lunchboxes — "peewees" for bikes, trikes, and stationery. Just peel 'em off and pat 'em where you want 'em. All eighteen are yours for just \$2.50 plus 45¢ postage and handling. (Order two sets for \$5.25 and save 65¢!) Best yet — you get your money back if not completely satisfied. Mail the coupon today, and we'll rush this fabulous set to you.

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New York, N.Y. 10017

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A LABYRINTHIAN LIST OF LAMBERT LABORS, LAUDABLE LAGNIAPPES, AND LEARNED LEGENDS LONG-LAPSED INTO LOONINESS!

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Wow! This is strictly a dynamite month for fans and pros alike! This is when the most eagerly-awaited comic-book sensation of the year goes on sale! It's the giant-sized, mind-boggling team-up of **Spider-Man** and **Superman**! Wait! You see them meet! Wait! You see them battle! Wait! You see the stupifying surprises in the ultimate superhero adventure of '76! And if you think that's gonna be a battle, wait'll you see Marvel and DC when we start figuring how to divvy up the royalties! But that's only the beginning! This is also the momentous month in which big-hearted Marvel unleashes its very first issues of **Marvel Classic Comics**—featuring the greatest titles in all of literature, presented in illustrated form—just because we love ya! And hey, have you heard the nuttiest caper of the season? Some joker decided to produce a t-shirt featuring (no kidding!) me! He claimed there are t-shirts with everything from sharks' bicusps to Woody Allen's tonsils, so why not set the whole industry back a few centuries by selling a shirt with my own almost-human features blushing displayed! If nothing else, it might always help to stop some runaway clocks! Well, here's the payoff—we did it as a gag—and they're selling like crazy! So congratulations, America—you're still turned-on to heavy culture! And, speaking of culture, did you hear about Big John Buscema teaching a course in "How to Draw for Comic Books"? I sat in on one of his classes recently and I can tell you that of J.B. touches as well as he draws. For more info about his classes, you can reach him at: Box 394, East Setauket, N.Y. 11733. (If that doesn't get me an autographed drawing, I won't bring in my homework next week!) And for more info about the mixed-up world of Marvel, tune in again next month, same place, same hysteria! Till then, I hope you haven't forgotten—Ex nihilo nihil fit!

Excelsior!



ITEM! We don't exactly wanna shout out the news, but if you promise to keep it to yourself, and not say a word to anybody, the ever-lovin' House Of Ideas has just given a Christmas present to all you Faithful Ones! Namely, beginning in just a month or three, our mystic master, **DOCTOR STRANGE**; our Hero-For-Hire, **LUKE CAGE**; **POWER MAN**, and everyone's favorite Benjamin J. Grimm (featured in **MARVEL-TWO-IN-ONE**) will be comin' at you each and every month! Yeah, you heard right, Wild One! We've just promoted three more super-stars to a twelve-times-a-year status! So, rush down to your newsstands right away and reserve your copies now! You know how fast our magnificent mags disappear from the racks!

ITEM! And, while you're looking through the galavantin' goodies we're always tossin' at you, you've probably seen the Mighty Marvel Value Stamps sensational **secondo** series that have been appearing these past weeks. Okay then, if you'd like to cut out those sultry stamps and place them in the absolutely new, specially-designed-for-you, stamp book (which is also redeemable for a gigantic grab-bag of goodies), now's the time to take advantage of our omnipresent offer. For just a mere half buck (that's 50¢ to all you Asgardians), we can wing our 16-page booklet-bonanza to you, featuring room for all your prize-winning stamps, and a special secret super-stamp of a shocking Marvel star! If you don't want to be left out in the hinterlands, send your check or money order to: **MARVEL STAMP-BOOK, SUPERHERO MERCHANDISE, PO BOX 777, DOVER, NEW JERSEY, 07801.**



ITEM! Wonder where the super-heroes have gone, lately? Well, if you're lookin' for something new, something different, something just a wee bit extra-special, take a gander at The Man Called **NOVA**—a brand-new action-packed superhero from the titanically-talented typewriter of Marvelous **MARV WOLFGAN**, and the pulsating pencil-power of **Big JOHN BUSCEMA**. We don't wanna say too much about the most spectacular new superhero ever, but we think you'll dig him when he finally does appear. As for when, even we're not sure if we'll start right off with a special-appearance in **MARVEL PREMIERE**, or go right ahead with his own magnificent mag. Either way, keep an eye peeled to these Bullpen pages. We think you'll kinda be glad you did.

ITEM! They say that old soldiers never die, they just fade away! But it seems that Nick Fury, one-time Sergeant of the Howling Commandos, and now fighting director of **SHELD**, not only doesn't fade away, but he doesn't get older either. Well, if that doesn't make sense, it's just our sneaky way of tellin' you that **Jumpin' JIM STARLIN** and Howling **HOWIE CHAYKIN** have gotten together to work on an issue of **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT** givin' you fearless front-lacers the inside info on why fightin' Fury looks younger now than he did back in the big war! You won't want to miss this one, True Believers! And, while we're filling you in on some Spotlight plans, Lively **LEN WEIN** and Big **JOHN BUSCEMA** have a wild **WARRIORS THREE** issue planned, featuring Grim Hogun, Dashing Fandral, and Voluminous Volstagg! Also, Rascally **ROY THOMAS**, and Garrulous **GIL KANE** are putting their unique ertistry to work bringin' you **THE WILD BOY**, an adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's **JUNGLE BOOK** stories! You won't want to miss that one!

ITEM! Now, listen closely, and pay attention to this, Faithful One, 'cause your over-worked, under-staffed Bullpen is being deluged with stories and art by each and every one of you, and, strive though we will, when we finish off one stack of stories, two more take its place. So, if you wanna send stories and art to us, please realize that it may take awhile for us to get to your work. Or, better yet, send your art to the **FOOM** art-contest, and maybe you'll be one of the lucky ones who gets to see his or her work printed.

ITEM! And, speaking of **FOOM**, right on the tail of our Jocular **JACK KIRBY** ish, we present a special **VISION** issue, featuring everything you would want to know about your favorite android, and more! If you've never been a full-fledged **FOOMER** before, we kinda think you're missin' something. And, if you've been a lucky member in the past, wait 'till you see some of the startling changes that we're adding to make-comicdom's greatest fan-club even greater. Fill out the cuddly coupon elsewhere in this ish, and send it in right away! You won't be sorry!

ITEM! Retraction time, sorta, Dept.: 'member when we said we'd be serving a cherubic Marvel Checklist to you twice each month? Well, we've doubled that bonus for you lucky ones out there, and from now on, every single week we'll be updating the checklist just for you! Who says Marvel doesn't have a heart of gold? Or wouldja believe—uru?

MARVEL COMICS!
WE'RE NUMBER ONE--
BUT WE *STILL* TRY HARDER!

SPIDER-MAN™



AND THE CUPCAKE CAPER

PETER PARKER IS IN MARY JANE WATSON'S APARTMENT WHEN SUDDENLY HE SEES A FAMILIAR ENEMY.

M. J., YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE ME FOR A MINUTE

YOU HAVE THIS THING, TIGER, AND I HATE IT. EVERY TIME THERE'S TROUBLE YOU DISAPPEAR.

RELAX, M. J., ALL I WANT TO DO IS GET SOME MILK TO HAVE WITH THESE HOSTESS CUP CAKES.

SURE, PETER, ANYTHING TO AVOID REALITY, BUT AT LEAST THIS TIME, YOU LEFT ME WITH A REALLY DELICIOUS SNACK. DEVIL'S FOOD CAKE... CHOCOLATY ICING... CREAMY FILLING.

I HATE HAVING MARY JANE THINK I'M A COWARD, BUT THERE'S NO OTHER WAY I CAN SLIP INTO MY SPIDER-MAN ROLE AND ONLY SPIDEY CAN HANDLE MAN MOUNTAIN MARKO!

DON'T LOOK NOW, MARKO, BUT THE MOUNTAIN JUST BECAME A MOLEHILL.

WEBHEAD, WE DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU, BUT WE SURE APPRECIATE THE HELP!

THANKS, GUYS. MEANWHILE, I'VE GOT A QUART OF GRADE-A TO DELIVER.

SORRY IT TOOK ME SO LONG, M. J., BUT I-ER-- GOT A LITTLE BIT DISTRACTED

NO SWEAT, PETER, THE HOSTESS CUP CAKES YOU LEFT WITH ME WERE A LOT MORE REWARDING TO ME THAN YOU'VE EVER BEEN!

BROTHER, IF SHE ONLY KNEW...!

IT'S A PLEASURE TO SERVE YOU! HOSTESS CUP CAKES





OH NO IT'S
TOPPLING
RIGHT FOR
ME... NO
TIME...

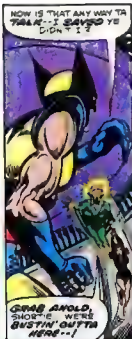
JEAN!



HAVE NO
FEAR JASS.

SAN-
SHOE'S
HERE.

CUTTIN' IT A LITTLE
CLOSE AGAIN, AREN'T
YOU, MR. CASEDY?



NOW IS THAT ANY WAY TO
TALK?-- I SAID YE
DIDN'T I?

GRAB ANOOL,
SHORT'E WERE
BUSTIN' OUTTA
HERE--!



AN' NOTHIN' TWEEN
HEAVEN AN' HELL IS
GONNA STOP US--!!



HAVEN'T
BET
SANSHEE!



SO FEAR SANSHEE AND YET SO FEAR... NEW YORK CLOSE
ENOUGH TO SEE ON A CLEAR DAY. TANTALIZING
UNREACHABLE

IF ONLY YOUR
FRIENDS KNEW
BUT PERHAPS IT'S
BETTER THAT
THEY DON'T

ANYTHING
CYCLOPS?

MM? OH KURT--
I DIDN'T HEAR
YOU COME IN.

NO. THERE'S
NOTHING.

CEREBRO'S SCANNED THE ENTIRE WORLD TWICE OVER AND THERE'S NOT A SIGN OF THEM ANYWHERE...



...NO THEM, NO DEFENSIVE SHIELDS, NOTHING!

CYCLOPS... SCOTT, YOU'VE BEEN WORKING FOUR DAYS STRAIGHT WITH NO REST, PRECIOUS LITTLE FOOD...



YOU'RE BURNING YOURSELF OUT, MY FRIEND...

I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING, NIGHTCRAWLER-- WHEN I WANT YOUR ADVICE, I'LL ASK FOR IT-- EN?!



CEREBRO'S FLASHING INTRUDER ALERT-- THERE'S SOMEONE COMING OVER THE BACK WALL...

STAY HERE KURT, I'M GOING TO CHECK...



...KURT? WHERE'D HE GO?

OH, WAIT A MINUTE, I CAN SEE OUR INTRUDER'S FACE ON THE MONITOR...



...AND I KNOW WHO HE IS... HE'S...

DR. PETER COBBEN, AN OLD FRIEND OF THE PROFESSOR'S.



HE SAYS HE'S HERE TO HOLD US--AND I'VE TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF BRIEFING HIM ON ALL THAT'S HAPPENED.

AND THE GIST OF IT, DR. COBBEN, IS THAT CEREBRO CAN'T FIND THEM, NOT EVEN A RESIDUAL TRACE...AND THE ONLY WAY FOR THAT TO HAPPEN...



...IS FOR JEAN AND THE OTHERS... TO BE DEAD.

I DON'T ACCEPT THAT--BUT WHAT OTHER CHOICE HAVE WE? IT'S LIKE THEY'VE VANISHED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH...



THAT'S IT--! THAT'S WHY THE SENTINEL WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT SOLAR FLARES...

"THEY'RE NOT ON THE EARTH AT ALL!"



--TO BE CONTINUED--

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The secret of teaching yourself music

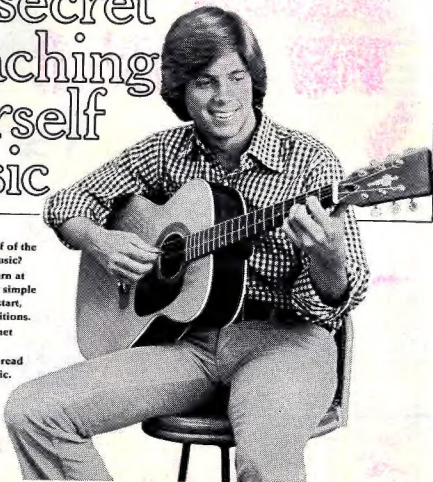
Why keep depriving yourself of the thrill of making your own music?

Here's a pleasant way to learn at home in spare time. You play simple familiar tunes right from the start, then more advanced compositions.

Choose piano, guitar or spinet organ.

No gimmicks—you learn to read notes, play regular sheet music.

It really works! Thousands now play who never could.



It may seem odd at first — the idea of teaching yourself music. You might think you need a private teacher at \$4 to \$10 per hour to stand beside you and explain everything you should do — and to tell you when you've made a mistake.

But surprising as it seems, you need no such thing. Thousands of people just like you have taught themselves to play by using the lessons we give by mail. And you can too.

With our lessons, you learn to play the right way — by note from regular sheet music. Without any gadgetry or gimmickry. And all it costs you is just pennies a day.

You don't need any previous musical training. Our lessons start you off "from scratch" with clear word-and-picture instructions. A lot of the songs you practice first are simple tunes you've heard many times. And since you already know how these tunes are supposed to sound, you can tell immediately when you've "got them right."

Then you go on to more advanced pieces. By this time you can tell if your notes and timing are right, even without ever having heard the songs before. Sooner than you might think possible, you'll be able to play whatever kind of music you like. Folk. Popular. Classical. Show and dance tunes. Hymns.

You learn in your spare time, in the privacy and comfort of your own home. There's no one standing over you to make you nervous. And because you teach yourself, you can set your own pace. You're free to spend as much time mastering any lesson as you wish.

It's really a marvelous way to learn. In fact, graduate Mrs. Norman Johanson wrote us, "My daughter has taken lessons for 8 years from a private teacher, and now she asks me questions about some of her lessons. How very proud I feel when she says to friends, 'You've just got to hear my Mom play!'"

Others also enjoy her playing. Mrs. Johanson reports. She plays for herself to relax after a trying day, and for her husband when he's tired. She also plays for friends when she goes to parties. "In a sentence," she says, "it's the most soul-satisfying thing that has ever happened to me."

If you've ever dreamed of being able to play the piano, the guitar, or the spinet organ, why not learn more about our convenient, economical way to learn? Send for our free booklet *Be Your Own Music Teacher*. With it we'll include a free "Note-Finder." There's no obligation. Just mail the coupon to the U.S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, A Home Study School Since 1898, 417 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605.



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Age _____
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State _____ Zip _____

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